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Remarks/Arguments

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination in the present application.

Claims 1, 2, 4-5, 7-10, 12-13, 15-18, 20-21, 23-26, 28-29 and 31-33 remain in this application. Claims 3, 6, 11, 14, 19, 22, 27 and 30 are canceled. Independent Claims 1, 10, 18 and 26 and selected dependent claims are amended further distinguish the present invention over the cited prior art. For the reasons given below, all of the claims are believed to be allowable over the cited prior art. Following are remarks addressing the Examiner's rejections in the Final Office Action mailed July 26, 2004 in the present application (the "Final Office Action").

Rejection of Claims 10, 12-18 and 20-25 under 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 10 and 18 are amended to correct the antecedent basis informality.

Rejection of Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-10, 12-15, 17-18, 20-23, 25-26, 28-31 and 33 under 103(a) over Hines in view of Murphy

Rejection of Claims 8, 16, 24, 32 under 103(a) over Hines in view of Murphy and further in view of Cavill et al.

In one embodiment of the present invention, the printing logic 149 controls the system 100 to begin receiving a data file 169 from a remote content source in the form of a data stream. To allow the system to receive and process individual portions of the data stream, the printing logic 149 sets a block size for portions of data to be gathered from the data stream. The printing logic 149 then gathers and processes a first portion 40' from the data stream, then a second portion 40", and so forth.

The printing logic may examine and utilize system characteristics, such as the data transfer speed, to set and periodically adjust the block size of the portions of data gathered. In one aspect of the present invention, the printing logic may adjust the block size of the portions of data periodically and concurrently with the printing process. In this manner, the block size may be dynamically adjusted after printing has begun to optimize print speed. Advantageously, by increasing the block size of data as the data transfer speed increases, fewer portions of data are sent to the printer 128. Because the printer is required to process fewer portions, print speed may be increased.

As noted in a previous Amendment, Murphy discloses overall data buffering in a printing system, and does not teach or suggest determining or setting the size of individual portions of print data received by the printer. In the Final Office Action the Examiner

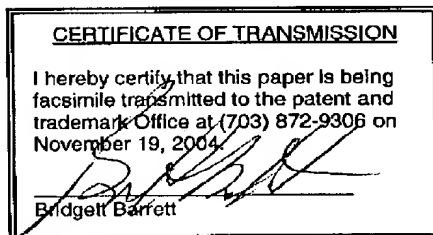
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acknowledges that the art of record (specifically, Murphy) does not teach or suggest variable data packet size (Final Office Action, page 13, lines 19-21). Additionally, in Murphy the data buffer size is determined before starting the print engine (See Column 11, lines 45-65; Column 12, lines 37-46; Column 13, lines 19-25), and there is no teaching or suggestion of adjusting the data buffer size after printing has begun.

Independent Claims 1, 10, 18 and 26 are amended to more clearly set forth that individual portions of data from the data file may vary in size between a first block size and a second block size, and that these portions are stored in a separate memory. In this manner, these individual portions of varying size are distinguished from the overall data buffer of Murphy. Additionally, as noted above, in the present invention the block size of the portions of data may be adjusted periodically and concurrently with the printing process. In this manner, the block size may be dynamically adjusted after the printing process has begun to optimize print speed. Independent Claims 1, 10, 18 and 26 are amended to more clearly set forth that the block size is adjusted after printing has begun. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 10, 18 and 26 and the corresponding dependent claims 2, 4-5, 7-9, 12-13, 15-17, 20-21, 23-25, 28-29, and 31-33 are allowable over Murphy and the other art of record.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that all of the currently pending claims 1, 2, 4-5, 7-10, 12-13, 15-18, 20-21, 23-26, 28-29 and 31-33 are in condition for allowance and a notification to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the below-listed telephone number.



Respectfully submitted,

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